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FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1) -Intelligence Sources and Methods PAGE GUERRILLAS ATTACK MILITARY TAR-8. AR GENTINA: E025x1 GETS. (S) NANT MLET) FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1) -Intelligence Sources and Methods

ITEM EIGHT: ARGENTINA (AS OF 1550 EDT 7 OCT 75)

GUERRILLAS ATTACK MILITARY

TARGETS. THE MONTONEROS, A DISSIDENT LEFT IST

PERONIST TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, CLAIMS RE
SPONSIBILITY FOR THE 5 OCTOBER THREE-STAGE

ASSAULT OPERATION AGAINST THE MILITARY, IN

WHICH SOME 26 EXTREMISTS AND SECURITY OFFI-

CIALS WERE KILLED.

ARgenTINA

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THE ATTACK WAS THE MONTONEROS'

FIRST MAJOR OPERATION AGAINST THE ARMED

FORCES. THEY SIMULTANEOUSLY HIJACKED A DOMESTIC AIRLINER AND ORDERED IT TO FORMOSA, SOME

600 MILES NORTH OF BUENOS AIRES. TERRORISTS

HAD SEIZED THE AIRPORT THERE AND INITIATED AN

ASSAULT AGAINST A NEARBY ARMY BASE IN AN AP-

PARENT ATTEMPT TO RELEASE SOME IMPRISONED COM-

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THERE IN WAITING CARS.

THE WELL-COORDINATED EFFORT

FAILED WHEN THE ATTACKERS ENCOUNTERED HEAVY

RESISTANCE AT THE FORMOSA BASE, AND THEY SUBSEQUENTLY FLED INTO THE SURROUNDING WOODS.

BORDER GUARDS RETOOK THE AIRPORT BUT NOT AN
TIL SOME 18 TER RORISTS HAD MANAGED TO ESCAPE

IN THE SKYJACKED AIRCRAFT, WHICH LATER LANDED

SOUTH OF FORMOSA. THE GUERRILLAS FLED FROM

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ONE OF SEVERAL LAST WEEK INCLUDING CLASHES
AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS. ON OCTOBER 1ST, THE
ARMY REPORTED THAT FIVE GUERR ALLAS WERE KILLED
ON 30 SEPTEMBER AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF ARMS
AND AMMUNITION CAPTURED DURING ITS TUCUMAN
PROVINCE COUNTER INSURGENCY CAMPAIGN. IN THE
CAPITAL ON 3 OCTOBER, A MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
UNIT'S HEADQUARTERS WAS ATTACKED AND NEARBY
BUILDINGS DAMAGED BY BOMBS. GUARD POSTS OF

PAGE 5 SECRET

AN INFANTRY REGIMENT BARRACKS IN BUENOS AIRES
WERE FIRED UPON BY TERRORI STS ON THE 4TH,
WHILE ANOTHER GROUP ATTACKED A POLICE STATION.

EDLY INCR EASE ITS COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS
IN TUCUMAN PROVINCE BY SENDING TWO TASK FORCES
THERE UNTIL THE TERRORIST THREAT IS ELIMINATED.
IN ADDITION, TOP STUDENTS IN THE ARMY'S SUPERI-

. FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1) -Intelligence Sources and Methods

IN ADDITION, TOP STUDENTS IN THE ARMY'S SUPEROR WAR SCHOOL WILL BE SENT TO THE PROVINCE SHORTLY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANTIGUERRILLA CAMPAIGN; THE REMAINDER WILL PROBABLY GO IN NOVEMBER. IN ANY EVENT, THE ARMY CONSIDERS THE INSURGENT PROBLEM SERIOUS AND WILL PRESS AHEAD WITH PLANS TO ELIMINATE IT.

THIS MONTONERO ATTACK IS THE

LARGEST AGAINST THE ARMED FOCCES TO DATE, BUT

IT PROBABLY DOES NOT REFLECT A BASIC CHANGE

IN THE TERRORISTS 'TACTICS. IF HOWEVER, THE

FORMOSA EVENT IS FOLLOWED BY OTHUR MAJOR AS
SAULTS, IT COULD INDICATE INTENSIFIED ANTIMILI-

PAGE 6 SECRET
TARY ACTIVITIES. THE MONTONEROS' PROFESSED
OBJ ECTIVE IS TO PROVOKE THE ARMED FORCES TO
SEIZE POWER, WHICH THE TERRORISTS BELIEVE
WOULD GAIN THEM POPULAR SUPPORT FOR FURTHER
ACTIONS. THE MILITARY, HOWEVER, ARE AWARE OF
THIS PLOY AND ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE PROVOKED
INTO IRRESPONSIBLE ACTS. NO NET HELESS, THE IN
CIDENIS WILL PROBABLY SPEED UP ACTIVITIES OF
THE RECENTLY CREATED INTERNAL SECURITY COUN-
CIL, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO COORDINATE COUNTER-
SUBVERSION EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND
SECURITY FORCES. (GDS-31 DEC 83) SOURCES:
061735Z 0CT 75 (S

WNINTEL); EMB BUENOS AIRES 6675 6 OCT 75 (C)

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